

## **DIANA C. GIBSON**

Santa Clara University  
500 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA 95053  
[dcgibson@scu.edu](mailto:dcgibson@scu.edu)

### **EDUCATION**

**Columbia Theological Seminary**, Decatur, Georgia  
*Doctor of Ministry, Gospel and Culture, May 2003*

**San Francisco Theological Seminary**, San Anselmo, California  
*Master of Divinity, 1978; John W. Meister Award in Pastoral Ministry*

**University of California at Riverside**, Riverside, California  
*Bachelor of Arts, Music, 1975; granted with High Honors*

### **DOCTORAL THESIS**

*"Nurturing Disciplines for Revolutionary Christians"*

Adviser: Dr. Walter Brueggemann

My thesis submits that intentional, sustained disciplines are required to shape and nurture faithful disciples committed to the revolutionary gospel of Jesus Christ. I present seven disciplines: praise and lament; interpretation and imagination; and retreat, resistance and engagement. I examine these disciplines through reflection on scripture, dialogue with liberation theology, and consideration of insights gained in a series of adult study classes that I taught. The conclusion of my project is that it is both necessary and urgent for the church to be about the task of nurturing disciplines for revolutionary Christians.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

September 2011 – Present. **Academic Year Adjunct Lecturer**, Santa Clara University  
Religious Studies Department, Santa Clara, CA

*Faith, Justice and Poverty*

*The Christian Tradition*

*Biblical Women and Power*

*Religion and Violence*

*Violence and Nonviolence in Scripture Human Suffering and Hope*

*The New Testament (for Graduate Program in Pastoral Studies)*

March 2008 – June 2011. **Quarterly Adjunct Lecturer**, Santa Clara University Religious  
Studies Department, Santa Clara, CA

*Christian Ethics*

*U.S. Hispanic Theology*

*Feminist Visionary Ethics*

*The Christian Tradition*

*Feminist Theologies*

*Religion and Violence*

September 2005 – October 2009. **Co-Executive Director**, Council of Churches of Santa  
Clara County, San Jose, CA

January 2009. **Adjunct Professor**, Intersession, Pacific School of Theology, Berkeley, CA  
*Leadership Models for Nurturing Prophetic Community*

January – March 2008. **Adjunct Lecturer**, Santa Clara University Graduate Program in  
Pastoral Ministries, Santa Clara, CA

*Moral Theology*

June 2005. **Instructor**, Graduate Theological Union Summer Session, Berkeley, CA  
*Fostering Prophetic Community: Learning from the Words and Work of Robert McAfee Brown*

November 2003 – June 2005. **Interim Pastor**, College Heights United Church of Christ,  
1150 W. Hillsdale Blvd., San Mateo, CA, 94403

June 1990 - December 2000. **Pastor/Head of Staff**, First Presbyterian Church of Palo  
Alto, 1140 Cowper Street, Palo Alto, CA, 94301

July 1984 - May 1990. **Assistant, Associate and Co-Pastor**, First Presbyterian Church of  
Palo Alto, Palo Alto, CA

October 1982 - May 1984. **Pastor in Team Ministry**, Uniting Church in Australia,  
Mitcham Uniting Church, Mitcham, Victoria, 3058, Australia

July 1978 - June 1982. **Assistant and Associate Pastor**, First Presbyterian Church of  
Oxnard, 450 Ivywood Dr., Oxnard, CA, 93030

September 1977 - June 1978. **Intern Pastor**, Covenant Presbyterian Church, 670 East  
Meadow Drive, Palo Alto, CA, 94306

September 1976 - June 1977. **Campus Coordinator**, Center for Women and Religion,  
Graduate Theological Union, San Anselmo Campus, CA

#### **FURTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

January 2015. **Instructor**. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Santa Clara University,  
Santa Clara, CA

*Bad Girls of the Bible* (five-week course)

February 2012. **Guest Speaker**, St. Mary's College, Moraga, CA

*Bad Girls of the Bible*

September-October 2010. **Instructor**, Interfaith Community Adult Study, Palo Alto, CA

*Building Bridges for Peace*

(6-week series culminating with a lecture by Professor Rajmohan Gandhi)

January 2007. **Instructor**, Earl Lecture Workshop, Berkeley, CA

*Torture: A Religious Issue for People of All Faiths*

January 2006. **Instructor**, Earl Lecture Workshop, Berkeley, CA

*Prophetic Boldness in the Public Square: Learning from a Prophet of Our Time*

(Two workshops on Robert McAfee Brown's *Reflections Over the Long Haul*)

March 2003 – December 2007. **Instructor**, Ecumenical Community Adult Bible Study  
Series, Palo Alto, CA (Participants included Baptists, Methodists, Episcopalians and  
Presbyterians)

*Power to Become Children of God: A Study of the Gospel According to John*  
*The Not-So-Minor Prophets: A Study of Amos, Hosea, Micah & Habakkuk*

*Imagination and Interpretation: A Study of Luke*  
*Interpretation and Imagination: A Study of the Book of Acts*  
*Bible Study: Genesis*

September - October 2003. **Instructor**, Stone Presbyterian Church, San Jose, CA  
*Ranting and Resisting with the Prophets* (6-week adult education series)

July 2003. **Spiritual Director and Instructor**, National Presbyterian Peacemaking Conference, Montreat, NC

Instructor for Presbyterian Peacemaking Advocates from 30 presbyteries:

*Deepening Our Spiritual Roots for the Work of Peacemaking*

Workshop Facilitator: *Heart, Mind, Body and Soul*

Staff for individual spiritual direction and counseling

March 2003. **Retreat Leader**, Valley Presbyterian Women's Retreat, Portola Valley, CA  
*To Whom Do We Belong?*

January - February 2002; January - February 2003. **Lecturer**, Bea Coffey Lectureship, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Palo Alto, CA

*Praise and Lament as Disciplines of Faith*

*Family Reunions: Exploring the Hebrew Scriptures through Imagination*

October - November 2002; October - November 2001. **Instructor**, Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church, San Francisco, CA

*Disciplines of Faith: Resistance, Retreat and Engagement*

*Saying Yes and Saying No*

March - June 2001; September-December 2001; January-June 2002. **Instructor**, Ecumenical Adult Study Series sponsored by United Campus Christian Ministries at Stanford, CA

*Disciplines that Liberate Us for Faithfulness*

*A Study of Jeremiah*

### **SERVICE IN THE UNIVERSITY, CHURCH AND COMMUNITY**

December 2002 – Present. **Co-founder and Coordinator**, Multifaith Voices for Peace & Justice, Palo Alto, CA

Bringing together more than 36 diverse communities of faith including Muslims, Jews, Buddhists, Protestants, Roman Catholics, Unitarian Universalists and Christian Scientists united to address issues of justice and peace, advocating for human and civil rights and for an end to U.S. sponsored torture and war. This local organization has sponsored prayer vigils (including two 24-hour vigils outside Palo Alto City Hall), forums, rallies and interfaith worship services, and has met with congresspersons from several local districts. There are approximately 200 members with up to 500 attendees at events.

September 2015 – Present. Member, Religious Studies Department Lecturer Committee.

September 2015. **Presenter.** Ignatian Center Workshop on Community Based Learning for the Fall New Faculty Orientation. Santa Clara University.

February 2015. **Co-president.** Ecumenical Ash Wednesday Service. Santa Clara University.

April 2013. **Co-president.** Agape Service for the Mock Border Wall and Immigration Week, Santa Clara University.

December 2006 – December 2011. **National Steering Committee,** Christian Peace Witness

This ecumenical witness involved more than 14 denominations and over 4,000 participants in worship at the Washington National Cathedral in 2007, followed by a candlelight vigil at the White House and participation of 210 Christians in prayer and civil disobedience. Later years CPW sponsored worship, witness, education and advocacy events in Washington, D.C. and regionally across the country.

January 2010 – September 2011. **Board of Directors,** United Campus Christian Ministry at Stanford

August 2009. **Organizer,** *Supporting Our Teens: A Multifàith Community Response* (interfaith panel in the aftermath of three teen suicides in Palo Alto)

June 2009. **Organizer,** *Torture is a Moral Issue* (two day conference in Palo Alto)

January 2007 - December 2009. **Chair,** Committee on Preparation for Ministry for the San Jose Presbytery

March 2005 - Present. **Participant,** American Muslim Voice

January 2004 - 2006. **Member,** Committee on Preparation for Ministry, San Jose Presbytery

May 2003. **Panelist,** Interfaith Dialogue on Spiritual Views of the United States as Empire; Community Media Project, local community television

May 2003. **Presbytery Commissioner to General Assembly,** Denver, CO

November 1989. **Delegate to El Salvador and Honduras,** National delegation of church leaders to accompany return of Salvadoran refugees from Honduras to El Salvador

January-February 1989. **Organizer and Delegate to Nicaragua and Honduras,** Church delegation visiting partner church in Nicaragua and Salvadoran Refugee Camp

## REFERENCES

Available upon request.

*Updated February 2016*